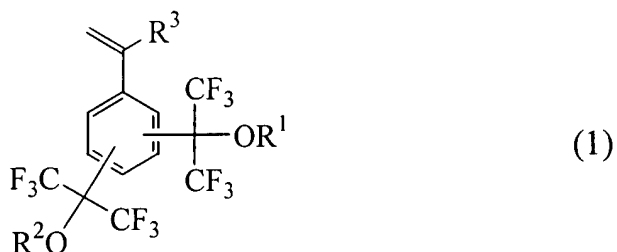


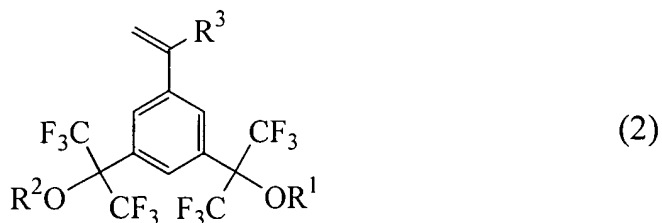
**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Original) A fluorinated polymer obtained by living anion polymerization of a monomer having the general formula (1):



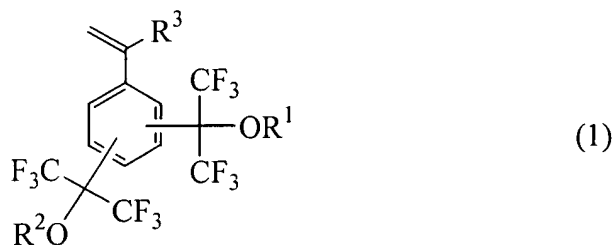
wherein  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  each are an acid labile group and  $R^3$  is hydrogen or methyl, and having a polydispersity index of 1 to 1.20.

2. (Original) The fluorinated polymer of claim 1 wherein the monomer has the general formula (2):



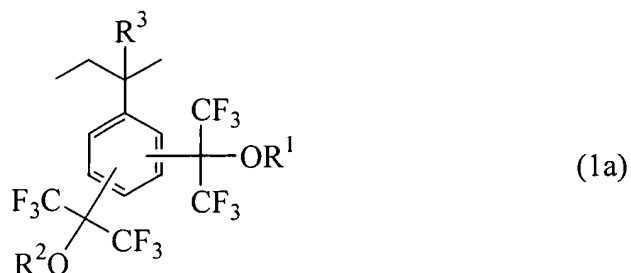
wherein  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  each are an acid labile group and  $R^3$  is hydrogen or methyl.

3. (Withdrawn) A process for preparing a fluorinated polymer comprising the step of subjecting a monomer having the general formula (1):



wherein  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  each are an acid labile group and  $R^3$  is hydrogen or methyl, to living anion polymerization in the presence of an organometallic compound as a polymerization initiator in an organic solvent, thereby obtaining the fluorinated polymer having a polydispersity index of 1 to 1.20.

4. (Currently Amended) A fluorinated polymer having a recurring units of the following general formula (1a):



wherein  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  each are an acid labile group and  $R^3$  is hydrogen or methyl and having a polydispersity index of 1 to 1.20.

5. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) The process of ~~claim 1~~ claim 3 wherein the acid labile groups represented by  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  are selected from the group consisting of formulae (3), (4) and (5):



wherein  $R^4$  is a tertiary alkyl group of 4 to 20 carbon atoms, an oxoalkyl group of 4 to 20 carbon atoms or a group of formula (5);

wherein  $R^5$  and  $R^6$  are independently hydrogen or straight, branched or cyclic alkyl groups of 1 to 18 carbon atoms; and

wherein  $R^7$  is a monovalent hydrocarbon group of 1 to 18 carbon atoms.

6. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) The process of ~~claim 1~~ claim 3 wherein the monomer is copolymerized with styrene.

7. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) The process of ~~claim 1~~  
claim 3 wherein the polymerization is conducted in the presence of  
a polymerization initiator.

8. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) The process of ~~claim 1~~  
claim 3 wherein the polymerization is conducted in the presence of  
a polymerization initiator selected from the group consisting of n-  
butyl lithium, sec-butyl lithium, tert-butyl lithium, sodium  
naphthalene, sodium anthracene,  $\alpha$ -methylstyrene tetramer disodium,  
cumyl potassium, cumyl cesium, phenyl magnesium bromide, phenyl  
magnesium chloride, ethyl magnesium bromide, ethyl magnesium  
chloride, n-butyl magnesium bromide, and n-butyl magnesium  
chloride.

9. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) The process of ~~claim 1~~  
claim 3 wherein the polymerization is conducted in the presence of  
an organic solvent.

10. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) The process of ~~claim 1~~  
claim 3 wherein the polymerization is conducted in the presence of  
an organic solvent selected from the group consisting of: cyclic  
ethers, aromatic hydrocarbons, aliphatic hydrocarbons, and mixtures  
thereof.